Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 199024
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:JTHYDEN:MGO
APPROVED BY S/S-O:JTHYDEN
----------120394 201734Z /41
O 201716Z AUG 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 199024

NODIS
CHEROKEE FOR DR BREZINSKI ONLY

FOL RPT PRETORIA 4238 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DTD 20 AUG 77

QUOTE: S E C R E T PRETORIA 4238

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PARM, SF
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM

REF: STATE 198014,

1. I SAW BRAND FOURIE AT 10:00 AND MADE THE POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL.

2. HE SAID HE COULD NOT GET THROUGH TO VORSTER AND BOTHA UNTIL AFTER THE CAUCUS MORNING SESSION IN CAPE TOWN, BUT WOULD BE SURE TO DO SO THEN. HE WAS NOT CERTAIN HOW FAST HE COULD GET ME AN ANSWER. THERE ARE POLICY QUESTIONS INVOLVED, HE NOTED, AND DID NOT KNOW HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE THE PM TO

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PAGE 02 STATE 199024

TOUCH THE NECESSARY BASES. LOOKING OVER THE THREE AFFIRMATIONS REQUESTED, HE EXPRESSED A PERSONAL OPINION THAT AT LEAST SOME OF THEM COULD BE MADE WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. HE REGRETTED THAT THIS MATTER HAD COME UP OVER A WEEKEND WHEN ALL THE PRINCIPAL POLICY MAKERS WERE OUT OF TOWN CONCENTRATING ON ANOTHER ISSUE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA. HE UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEM WE FACE AT

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LAGOS AND THE UN AND WANTS TO BE HELPFUL.

3. FOURIE EXPRESSED NO WILLINGNESS TO INVITE AN ON-SITE INSPECTION OF THE KALAHARI SITE. DURING OUR BRIEF CONVERSATION HE AGAIN NOTED THAT THIS WAS A SECRET MILITARY INSTALLATION REQUIRING THE APPROVAL OF MILITARY AUTHORITIES. HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT "OUR MILITARY NO MORE WANTS FOREIGNERS PRYING AROUND THEIR SECRET INSTALLATION THAN YOURS DO."

4. SPEAKING OF THE LONGER TERM PICTURE, FOURIE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT US-SA NUCLEAR COOPERATION HAD FALLEN OFF DURING THE PAST 3-4 YEARS. IF THIS COOPERATION HAD REMAINED HIGH, HE OBSERVED, THE PRESENT MISUNDERSTANDING MIGHT NOT HAVE ARISEN. PREFACING HIS NEXT REMARKS WITH THE OBSERVATION THAT HE WAS NOT SUGGESTING BARGAINING OR HORSETRADING, HE SAID THAT IT WOULD HELP A GREAT DEAL IF THE US AND SA COULD DISCUSS SOUTH AFRICA'S NUCLEAR FUEL REQUIREMENTS AND REACH SOME KIND OF AN UNDERSTANDING. AS LONG AS YOU TRY TO CUT US OFF, HE ADDED, YOU MUST EXPECT THAT WE WILL SEARCH FOR OTHER WAYS TO SATISFY OUR NEEDS.

5. FOURIE AND I HAVE COORDINATED OUR WEEKEND PROGRAMS SO THAT WE CAN EXPEDITE SENDING RESPONSE AS SOON AS RECEIVED FROM CAPE TOWN.

6. DEPT PASS TO BONN, LONDON AND PARIS AS APPROPRIATE.
SECRET

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PAGE 03 STATE 199024

BOWDLER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, NUCLEAR WEAPONS, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 08/20/77, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, INSPECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY
Executive Order: X3
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Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770840/aaaabhlh.tel
Line Count: 95
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: SECRET
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1537824
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, SF, US, (FOURIE, BRAND)
To: WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bfb28457-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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